

## **METHOD, SYSTEM AND PROGRAM FOR GENERATING STRUCTURE PATTERN CANDIDATES**

### **Abstract of the Disclosure**

5 A structure pattern candidate generating system is disclosed for automatically  
generating many kinds of complicated structure pattern candidates and facilitating  
selection of a structure pattern suitable for the purpose. When the system is provided  
with a structure pattern pointing to an element or an element set in a document logical  
structure of a structured document, that has been specified by a user, a method for  
determining an item to be edited determines an item to be edited among the items  
10 composing the structure pattern. A method for generating structure pattern candidates  
replaces the item to be edited with items in different expressions based on the document  
logical structure information about the structured document to generate structure pattern  
candidates. A method for generating a structure pattern candidate list arranges the  
generated structure pattern candidates based on a condition and index for display for  
15 giving selection criteria to the user to generate a structure pattern candidate list. If the  
system is provided with an item desired to be edited, that has been specified by the user  
for the structure pattern, the method for determining an item to be edited determines the  
item desired to be edited as the item to be edited.